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POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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SAFETY MEASURES IN WAR PLANES MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDED

Sofia VOENNA TEKHNKA in Bulgarian No 5, 1982 pp 28-30

[Article by Reserve Engr-Col Lyubcho Nikolov: "Safety Measures During Work on Aviation Equipment"]

[Text] One of the invariable sections of every regulatory document governing the maintenance of aviation equipment is "Basic Safety Measures During Maintenance Work."

Why is such great attention paid to this question? The first reason is that ignorant or careless maintenance of an aircraft or helicopter can be the cause of a serious accident.

The second reason is that getting aviation equipment ready is a collective job of many aviation specialists--engineers, technicians, mechanics, officers, noncommissioned officers, enlisted men and various specialists in the rear services area. Every one of these must have a good knowledge of the safety measures for the equipment that he services.

The third reason is that nonobservance of safety measures may cause damage to the engine, some parts of the aircraft, individual systems, instruments, even the entire aircraft or helicopter. And this is expensive equipment which cannot always be reconditioned or purchased.

In the event of nonobservance of safety measures an explosion or fire may burst out, which will lead to still greater and irreparable losses. All this affects the combat readiness of an aviation unit to the utmost degree. Therefore, the first and paramount obligation of leading engineering personnel of aviation elements and units is to pay most serious attention to the technical training of pilots, engineers, technicians and mechanics. What is fundamental therein is the study of aviation equipment and its proper maintenance. Safety-measure matters must be studied with great seriousness and thoroughness. Leading engineering personnel and all officials have the standing mission of very seriously making sure of their observance. Only highly qualified specialists must be cleared for work on aviation equipment. The documents for the operation of aviation equipment indicate the cases in which the knowledge of engineering and technical personnel is to be checked: when they come on the job, when they enter upon a new position, and when their work is interrupted for more than 3 months.

What are the areas for observance of safety measures?

During Maintenance of Aviation Equipment

The safety measures which aviation specialists must observe in getting an aircraft or helicopter ready for flight or in periodic servicing are given in the greatest detail in the relevant manuals and in the uniform regulations on the operation of the particular type of aviation equipment. In this article we shall direct attention to only those points, violations of which still occur. Before working on an aircraft (helicopter), one must make certain that it is grounded, that all AZS [circuit breakers] in the cockpit are turned off and that all emergency buttons are closed. A check must be made as to whether safety pins have been put in the cockpit or on other aircraft pyrotechnic devices, in what position the landing-wheels crane has been placed and whether it has been locked. Technicians, mechanics and pilots must not be permitted to enter the aircraft cockpit with tools or other objects in their pockets, for if they fall out without being noticed, jamming of the aircraft controls may occur during flight. Engines must be tested at specified sites with strict observance of instructions. The necessary commands are still not always given nor is care always taken that braking chocks are well placed in front of aircraft wheels; care is not strictly taken that during testing servicemen should not walk through the danger zone in front of or behind the aircraft or into the zone of a helicopter's lifting propeller; nor is care taken that there are no foreign objects in the intake valves and that the concrete in front of them is clear. In order to direct the constant attention of engineering and technical personnel to the airtightness of fuel and hydraulic systems, which represent the main threat of the occurrence of fire during engine testing on the ground or in flight and during work on the aviation armament of aircraft and helicopters, special pointing zones and parking places must be specified for the loading and unloading of weapons, placing of the prescribed flags must be strictly observed, and the necessary commands given. When work is being done on weapons from the outside, there must be nobody in the cockpit. Leaving unfinished a job once started on an aircraft, engine or aircraft systems, or entrusting it to another specialist to finish up, must not be permitted. Such cases have often led to undesirable results. Periodic servicing of the firing mechanisms of explosive gear, catapult, canopy and drop tanks must be performed only with explosives removed. During work in the cockpit strict care must be taken that each specialist switches on only the circuit breakers of his specialty and checks only the systems in his specialty. Care is not always taken to remedy troubles in individual systems only with the current turned off; precautionary measures to prevent the irradiation of personnel during the checking of systems which emit high-frequency (UHF) electromagnetic energy are not always observed. Ground personnel must always work with earphones in order to protect their hearing. Persons with oily clothing or hands must not be permitted near elements of aircraft oxygen equipment. Special attention must be given to cleanliness of fueling hoses and valves.

During Maintenance of Control and Measuring Equipment, Manometers, Various Instruments and Devices

In getting ready for flights or during periodic servicing, the greatest attention must be directed to the serviceability of KIA [kontrolno-izmervatelna aparatura; control and measuring equipment] whereby aircraft systems and apparatuses are

checked. It must be in good working order, the personnel working with it must know it very well, and before it is connected to the aircraft the equipment must, without fail, be tested for self-monitoring, with strict observance of the safety measures given in the instructions. There are many cases of serious injuries from the failure of manometers when a manometer designed for lower pressure was installed to monitor a higher-pressure system. Moreover, for manometers with low-grade accuracy, 3-month checking periods must be observed. Special attention must be paid that no mistake occurs in the installation of oxygen and ordinary manometers. Great attention in the maintenance of aircraft must be paid to the malfunction of hydraulic jacks. To elevate aircraft, only jacks that are in good working order and have had their annual inspection must be used. On this score there are still lapses which may result in human casualties or the breakage of expensive materiel. When an aircraft is elevated, the necessary commands must be given, and the requirement that after elevation jacks must be locked must be observed. There are many lapses in filling aircraft tires. They are not always filled with special devices--reducer valves. Sometimes these are not in good working order or have damaged manometers. Special attention must be given also to letting nitrogen (air) out of shock absorbers, out of hydraulic accumulators and out of other pressurized devices. This must always be done with special devices and never by unscrewing the filling valve. The necessary attention is not paid to the serviceability of braking chocks, carriages and especially the cables on them, the condition of the engine-testing sites and of the steel cables with which the aircraft is lashed down during the testing of afterburning. There are many cases of injuries due to working with broken ladders or rungs poorly tied to the wings of aircraft.

In workshops and laboratories of the unit, where periodic servicing of aircraft and other equipment is performed, safety measures in working with power units must be strictly observed; care must be taken that the hydraulic pump is in good working order; hydraulic systems must be checked, as must the test bench for nozzles, which work under pressure too, the bench for washing filters etc. Often suspended tanks have to be welded in the mechanical workshop of the unit. The necessary safety measures must be strictly observed so that no explosion will occur. The electric installations on laboratory premises, electric motors and apparatuses are not always in good working order and safe. Many machines such as lathes, drills, cutters etc. are not grounded. There are not always signs close to machines on which safety measures have been written out. According to legal provisions, all personnel in these laboratories must be given instructions every 3 months regarding the observance of safety measures at work.

One of the basic safety measures is the constant serviceability of firefighting equipment. Fire is the chief danger during work on aviation equipment. Therefore, strict care must be taken that firefighting equipment is serviceable--that it is constantly in good working order and periodically checked by leading engineering and technical personnel and by duty engineers before flights in accordance with the requirements of instructions. Drills with firefighting groups must be conducted periodically. Care must be taken especially that smoking occurs only in specified places. During the instruction of personnel of aviation units and the service battalion it must be pointed out that in case of fire GSM [fuels and lubricants] can be put out only with fire extinguishers, asbestos cloths, and never with water. And a fire involving an electric installation must be fought only with carbon-dioxide or tetrachloride fire extinguishers.

Leading engineering personnel and officials of the aviation technical unit are obliged to see constantly to the state of health of personnel, strictly forbidding them to wash up after work with ethylated gasoline, which is highly toxic.

During Work with Aircraft-Servicing Equipment

Much of the technical battalion's motorized equipment, which services aircraft at takeoff, during flight or at the sites where aircraft are made ready on the day of advance preparation, also creates the preconditions for accidents. It includes many tractors, APA [airport mobile power units], tank trucks, oil-servicing trucks, oxygen truck, compressed-air truck, heaters, fire trucks and many others. The main condition for preventing accidents during taxiing on the airfield, at takeoff or at the sites is that there should be a well-organized traffic system for these vehicles and that the senior engineer and duty flight service officer should control it, especially at the time of night flights when visibility is reduced and the noise from the engines is very intense.

Aircraft use many special fluids and gases, as well as kerosene, gasoline and oils, many of which are toxic and may cause rashes. Safety measures in working with these fluids and gases are given in the instructions and must be strictly observed.

The personnel manning the oxygen truck must be especially careful. The official who does the loading must, without fail, have white overalls and clean hands, and as a rule a sergeant should be appointed for this purpose.

In loading individual aircraft systems, particular attention must be paid to the marking of the air, nitrogen and oxygen cylinders, with attention paid during their transportation and removal from the vehicles and care also taken to prevent their accidentally being exchanged due to ignorance or, mostly, due to inattention.

Knowledge of Safety Measures by Leading Personnel of Aviation Units and Officials

In order for the campaign for observance of safety measures by performing technical and military personnel while working on aviation equipment to be effective; in order for there to be no accidents, preconditions for accidents or accidents due to their nonobservance; as well as for there to be no material losses or breakdowns of expensive aviation equipment, the safety measures in every area of activity on the airfield in getting aircraft ready and in the conduct of flight must be known perfectly by leading engineering personnel and by officials so that they can constantly check on their observance. This knowledge and these habits must be implanted in leading and in performing personnel as early as their instruction at the Military School, at the same time that they study aviation equipment.

The activity of commanders, deputy commanders for political affairs, deputy commanders for aviation-engineering services of all ranks, of party and Komsomol organizations along these lines must be tremendous.

6474
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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

MILITARY LOCATIONS IN FRG DISCUSSED

Prague ZAPISNIK in Czech No 10, 1982 pp 6-8

[Report by correspondent Frantisek Vonderka: "Behind the Barbed Wire in Arsbeck There Await 270 Hiroshimas"]

[Text] The bus covered with posters reading "Easter March 1982 Arsbeck" came to fetch us in front of the press center, in the government quarter in Bonn. A group of about 30 reporters had accepted the invitation extended by the organizers of the antiwar march in the Lower Rhine. (On 10 and 11 April, 30,000 persons participated in this march, and throughout the FRG hundreds and thousands of citizens protested against war during the 1982 Easter holidays.) The defenders of peace from the Lower Rhine called their event "a press conference in a bus." The participants of this unusual press conference included reporters from the FRG, West Berlin, Switzerland, the CSSR, Libya and Sweden. An explanation as to why the press conference was being held in a bus came after the first few hundred meters. One of the organizers of the excursion, Georg Vormschlag, briefly welcomed us aboard and then said: "Today in the Lower Rhine we will jointly inspect the cause of the peace movement's constant growth in this part of the FRG. The reason is a single one: in the Lower Rhine there are many military facilities and installations. And not just any kind. These are installations in which an enormous potential of nuclear weapons is accumulated. We wish to show you some of these facilities today."

Georg Vormschlag of the citizens' initiative "Easter March 1982 Arsbeck" acquaints us during the trip with the past and present of the peace movement in the Lower Rhine. He tells us that at the beginning some people ridiculed and failed to understand the drive of the defenders of peace. But today also their eyes are beginning to open. Our guide told us about a farmer who last year hotly opposed the defenders of peace, but this year he himself offered his meadow as a campsite where the participants of the Easter March to Arsbeck could pitch their tents. Other people who previously had been under the influence of the official propaganda about the "Danger from the East" reacted in the same fashion. Today they are thinking differently. Georg Vormschlag told us that of the 50 stores the defenders of peace turned to for permission to put up the propaganda poster for the Easter March to Arsbeck, only one refused permission. Its owner is a staunch supporter of the CDU [Christian Democratic Union].

First Stop

After Dusseldorf our bust left the boring Autobahn for a district road. We are traveling westward, in the direction of Holland. The countryside is rather similar to the Dutch plain. We pass through villages and skirt meadows on which black cattle



Figure 1. Map of the Lower Rhine showing route of the excursion.

Key:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Key to symbols | 8. Aircraft carrying nuclear bombs |
| 2. Medium-range missiles | 9. Munitions reloading point |
| 3. Short-range missiles | 10. War gas storage |
| 4. Flat-trajectory missiles | 11. Underground bunkers |
| 5. Anti-aircraft missiles | 12. Military restricted area |
| 6. NATO control station | 13. Nuclear warheads |
| 7. Radar post | 14. Neutron warheads |

and horses are grazing. The bus stops at the village of Grefrath. From the road one can see a tower with radar discs. This is an important communications complex for communication between units that are equipped with nuclear weapons. As one of our guides tells us, there are in all five such towers in the Lower Rhine. An orange-colored Volkswagen stops next to the bus; in it are policemen in civilian clothes. One of them tells the driver to show his papers and then orders: "No photographs, no filming." He threatens suggestively with his finger a West German reporter who wanted to photograph at least this scene, telling him that his film would be confiscated if he clicked his shutter. After a brief discussion, the policeman in civilian clothes leaves the bus. But the orange-colored Volkswagen accompanied us during the entire trip.

Lower Rhine a Large Military Base

In Hinsbeck, which is barely 20 kilometers from Grefrath, the bus enters a dead-end street called Heisterweg. It is more or less a forest trail that suddenly ends at a gate. Beyond it is a military base from which Nike-Hercules missiles would be fired "in case of necessity." Our guide comments: "The Nike-Hercules bases in the Lower Rhine can be recognized by their wooden guard towers. These are very old bases where Nike-Ajax missiles were deployed previously." At night, Georg Vormschlag tells us, the base in Hinsbeck is lit up like a Christmas tree. This is for reasons of security. Another guide, Dr Julius Pott, adds: "When a person walks along the fence of the base at night, the guards have four different commands. I don't know what they are when the Belgians and Americans are on guard duty, but when the Bundeswehr is on duty the command are: 'Halt, this is the Bundeswehr'; 'Stop or I will shoot'; then follows a warning shot, and finally a direct shot. The soldiers told me that they were trained to shoot first at the target, and then give a warning shot." Last year, at one of the nuclear bases in the Lower Rhine, they found the body of an unidentified male. It is still being kept a secret how this man got on the base and how he lost his life.

270 Hiroshimas

The bus continues its journey. Along the road to Wildenrath we drive by an airfield of the British RAF. The silhouettes of the antiaircraft missiles surrounding the airfield can be seen already from a distance. The airfield is being used by bombers that can carry nuclear weapons. In Herongen we pass an American Army base. On it we see large concrete bunkers, and additional ones are being built diligently. We are slowly approaching Arsbeck. One kilometer from the town we stop at the edge of a pine forest. A few hundred meters from the B 221 highway is the command post of the missile units whose staff is in Geilenkirchen-Teveren. The unit has 36 nuclear missiles of the Pershing 1 A type. That is the official figure. Actually there are 50 missiles, 14 more that are a sort of reserve. At the base in Arsbeck they are practicing a so-called QRA, which stands for Quick Reaction Alert, the highest degree of combat readiness. Our guide comments: "In the Arsbeck QRA combat emplacement the individual companies, with nine Pershing 1 A missiles, alternate. Previously this was done every 14 days, but now they alternate weekly. Simply because the servicemen do not tolerate well the pressure they are under. There have already been accidents.

Our guide tells the story of how a company, transporting three missiles, got lost and strayed into neighboring Holland, instead of arriving at the Arsbeck base. The defenders of peace know this from soldiers who participated in the search for the

lost company. There is also evidence that some servicemen, particularly the Americans, are taking drugs in an effort to reduce the tension.

Our guides then tell us about the system of firing missiles. About the existence of several stages in the preparations for live firing. There are two keys for unlocking each control. One key is held by a member of the Bundeswehr, the other by a member of the United States Army. The 14 missiles that officially do not exist are the Americans' reserve for the case should members of the Bundeswehr refuse to obey the command to turn the key unlocking the launch control when the missile is aimed at a target in the FRG. That such missile targets do exist has been revealed in documents that were published in the United States, much to the Pentagon's displeasure, and from there the information was passed on to the FRG. The documents were photocopies of the logbooks of American bombers that carry nuclear weapons. On the pages of the logbooks are the names of the "targets" and their exact geographic locations. Under "Targets in the FRG" are such place-names as Lubeck, Hamburg, Hannover, . . .

We are walking along a forest trail around the base's concrete wall that alternates with a barbed-wire fence. On it are signs warning: "Attention, Deadly Force Authorized." Which means that the guards may use firearms. Another sign forbids taking photographs, under severe penalty.

From the trail one can see the concrete guard tower, several buildings, and twin flagpoles flying the FRG and United States flags. Georg Vormschlag notes: "Usually it is very quiet here. You hear only the birds signing. Now you hear engine noise in the background. Which means that the communications truck has driven out to that hill, which you can see very well from here. The base is just having a QRA, the highest degree of combat readiness. The missiles are on their launching pads, ready to be launched at any time. I hate to think of it, but if they were launched, the missiles would start on their trajectory roughly 200 meters from the place where we are now standing. That is nine missiles, and their destructive power is equal to 270 bombs of the Hiroshima type. A total of 3.6 megatons of TNT, nearly 50 percent more than what was exploded during World War II. That is something so terrible that no one can imagine. And that is only about 25 percent of the destructive power that the Geilenkirchen unit has."

The communications truck is parked on a hill outside the fence, and thus we can go almost up to it. Ten meters from the hill is a line that it is not advisable to cross, as a warning sign reminds us.

In 1983, the Arsbeck unit that now is practicing the highest degree of combat readiness (i.e., all stages of unlocking the launch controls, except the last 48 seconds during which the launching still can be blocked) is to be rearmed with Pershing 2 missiles. For this reason modifications of the approach roads are already being planned; for example, level crossings will be eliminated so that nothing will hold up the missile columns.

At present the missiles are being transported at night or by helicopter. The new road will simplify transportation.

The only thing with which NATO did not reckon is the public resistance that ever louder is refusing to live in the shadow of nuclear missiles. That is why the idea of the Easter March to Arsbeck has met with such response. More and more people realize that only a strong peace movement in the FRG is able to prevent nuclear insanity and to foil the plans that one day would lead to a Euroshima in place of Europe.

1014

CSO: 2400/282

CHARTER 77 REPORT ON CZECHOSLOVAK ECONOMY

Paris L'ALTERNATIVE in French No 16/17, May-Aug 82 pp 21-26

[Unsigned samizdat article by Charter 77 dated February 1982 from Prague, printed by Palach Press, translation into French by L'ALTERNATIVE: "Why?"]

[Text] Czechoslovakia: Economic Crisis

It is to a samizdat analysis, published clandestinely by Charter 77 in Prague at the beginning of the year, that we have turned for a description of developments in the economic situation and of the questions any Czechoslovak citizen facing that situation might ask himself: hence the title "Why?" which we have given the analysis. Starting off from a report on the worsening of the situation, this article describes its causes and advances concrete proposals--calling in particular for a democratic process of informing the people and for the democratic participation of the people--for remedying it.

Why?

A Charter 77 Text

("Information on and questions about certain economic issues relating to the increase in prices of staple foodstuffs.")

On behalf of the signatories of Charter 77, the Charter's spokesmen have received a great amount of information on and a number of questions about certain economic issues relating to the increase in prices of staple foodstuffs. That information and those questions are in connection with questions being asked nowadays by a segment of public opinion. Therefore, we felt it useful to make them known to all those whom they might interest. At the same time, in accordance with Articles 17 and 29 of the Constitution we are presenting them for the attention of the Federal Assembly and are also addressing them to the Congress of the Central Council of Trade Unions which is to meet in the next few days.

The January Increases

The January increase in the prices of meat, meat products, poultry, game, fish (fresh and canned), rice, cigarettes and other tobacco-based products, and wine and certain alcoholic beverages, as well as the general increase in meatless dishes in restaurants are not the first measures to lower the standard of living of the population. Furthermore, because of the constant hidden price increases, a new question must be asked: to what extent are we risking the necessity to raise the prices of other consumer goods again (and thus to lower the standard of living even more), and how can we be confident that, for example, it will be possible to buy meat, and that we will not have to stand in line for staple foodstuffs? A growing number of citizens are gradually realizing how absolutely intolerable certain negative economic manifestations are becoming: the disequilibrium which affects nearly all the basic branches of the economy, the enormous waste, various peices of planning nonsense, and finally, the failure to carry out national production plans. The downward tendency of basic economic trends is continuing, and even apparently at an accelerated rate. For example, real wages were lower in 1979 than in the previous year, and the same goes for 1980. And yet national income was still rising during those years even if not by very much. However, national income stagnated in 1981 (in fact, it grew by only a few tenths of a percent) whereas it should have advanced by 2.7 percent according to the plan.

Why the Waste?

Every realistic person knows that there have been and there will always be shortcomings. But at the same time he asks himself why nowadays those shortcomings are so numerous, so big, and so burdensome, and present in nearly all the main areas of our economy and daily life. For the most part, however, this cannot be explained by the crisis which is affecting capitalist countries or by the general increase in prices of raw materials and energy. We already know the extent to which we waste those last-mentioned items: we use 50 percent more than the average industrial country. Many people wonder why. We supporters of Charter 77 also wonder why. Our questions do not slander or, even less, defame the work of our nation as is asserted by propaganda when any statement is made by unofficial circles. Most of us are involved in the production process ourselves. We personally experience an extremely great variety of problems and for that reason alone we cannot just leave it at that without doing anything. Our "whys" must be understood as an incitement to discuss in constructive fashion certain burning economic questions we face nowadays. By asking these questions, we are making use of economic and civic rights embodied in international pacts which we have ratified. In addition, by doing this we are responding to numerous calls on the part of different party organs, the government, the trade union organization, and their principal leaders who ask workers to express their opinions too concerning the complicated and urgent problems of our way of life, in order for politicians and economists to answer their questions (see the 24 February 1982 issue of RUDE PRAVE). We must no longer be content only to note and list the various serious inadequacies and ills of the Czechoslovak economic system. Their basic causes must be analyzed and proposals must be derived therefrom aiming at effective measures, and indeed, even various changes.

The Powerlessness of Ordinary Citizens

The growing inadequacies appall citizens, and that has negative economic consequences as well; the feeling of powerlessness felt by an ordinary citizen, a worker, faced with the fact that he cannot in any way influence the course of events as far as the economy is concerned, has a great effect on everyone's output, initiative and even profit-sharing. Social antagonisms aggravate the population's discontent as well. Above all else citizens are critical of bribetakers, speculators, and various parasites who profit from shortages in the number of housing accommodations, services, certain goods, etc. An increasing number of voices are being raised against faulty and unqualified management. There of course we are talking about the consequences of the inability of certain ruling bodies to resolve this whole set of inadequacies. One is hearing more and more voices of trade unionists and even party members being raised in that regard. This visible deterioration of economic life, and the drop in the standard of living and real incomes while requirements regarding work remain the same or are increasing, are leading to demoralization, to a declining work ethic, to a decreased sense of responsibility, etc.

The Decline in Efficiency and Profitability

Even if one were to accurately list only the principal inadequacies and deficiencies, the losses and damages which number in the several billion, the disproportions and distortions of our policy and our practices as regards investments--all that would be long and tedious, even if we confined ourselves to matters relating to the implementation of plans, directives, orders, and decrees and if we steered clear of comparing them to the efficiency of investments in the average industrial country. Let us cite a few examples: the imbalance between the planned content and structure of investments, on the one hand, and real production capacities on the other; the excessive staggering and parcelling out of investment actions, with excessive time periods allotted for construction, as well as delays in carrying the investments through to completion; bad coordination of deliveries; the constant decline of deliveries and the sizable increase in estimates with overruns later on. If one analyzes the years 1970-1980, one notices, for example, that in the case of energy construction, estimates rose by 5-6 percent a year, whereas during the same period readjustments of wholesale prices were carried out on two occasions on the supposition that the overall costs of investments were going to fall. On the contrary, during that period the rate of costs increases went up. The observation has been made that the quality of investments on receipt of finished work leaves something to be desired, particularly in the area of housing construction. The utilization of production capacities and the initiation of trial operations have been chronically behind during the last three years with respect to one-third of the investments. Efficiency and profitability are lower than planned just as payback (via production) of investment costs is quite a bit slower. For a great number of investments the planned volume of production has not been reached. When we do not supply the planned production ourselves, we have to import the necessary raw materials and parts on credit, and to pay for them we have to export even more of other goods originally meant for the domestic market.

Here we are talking quite simply about a chain reaction which will cost us billions of korunas over the duration of the five-year plan.

Delays on Work Sites

It is precisely on the biggest and most significant work sites that certain specific jobs are not being completed within planned deadlines. In the case of certain big construction jobs the set deadlines have been increased even twofold (cf. Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party 1980). After many years people are starting again to say that the average planned construction time in Czechoslovakia will be overrun by a year. New production capacities are put into operation late, building costs are overrun, and the new investment objectives do not reach their planned scope. Thus, out of nine vitally important sites in the western part of Slovakia, the completion of which was anticipated by the plan, only one will be finished. Unfortunately this state of affairs did not affect 1980 only. The present situation in the southern part of Bohemia shows that out of 140 construction projects in the 1976-1980 Five-Year Plan, the planned construction time was not exceeded for only eight of them. In the October 1980 reports of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak PC [Communist Party], it was mentioned that we would not be able to render a certain number of target investments operational during the 1976-1980 Five-Year Plan period--investments which were, however, scheduled by the plan. There are work sites where very little work is done in a year. In 1980 there were 119 construction projects with starting budgets involving 4.4 billion korunas, on which no work has been carried out the whole year. In 1980 there were 300 sites whose average planned cost exceeded 100 million korunas per site and where work had been going on for over 10 years. The production programs of the building industry firms express in value terms the amount of planned construction work, but those programs do not take into consideration the actual resources the firms have at their disposal and their access to basic means of production and to manpower. That comes to the fore afterward with successive breakdowns on the different sites and with management work becoming poorer. Thus, in 1981 the number of construction industry workers per site went below 5. That fact shows that by and large the efficiency of investments is quite low. Why? Because of both habitual basic causes as well as the secondary causes which follow from them. The principal and decisive causes which give rise to this bad state of affairs originate in the quality of the economic machinery and the planning systems and methods themselves. Otherwise it would not be possible for most work sites to be lacking in materials, skills, manpower, etc. in practice. However, we plan nearly everything. It is several authorities, not a single body, which make the decisions concerning my action on a certain scale.

Several Billion Korunas of Losses

That is why one of the basic answers to our question probably will be that it is ridiculous to plan an economy's development without considering the dangers that development conceals, and also one answer will undoubtedly be that it is ridiculous to have a central plan conceived in such a way that the national economy experiences disruptions and losses not only when the plan is

not fulfilled but also when it is. That leads to further questions. Why do we have misguided plans and a bad method of planning? Why are there such large insufficiencies, disorder and shortcomings, spontaneity and chaos in the various branches of the economy? Why have losses numbering several billion korunas been occurring these last few years, losses caused by an insufficient supply of spare parts, by planning excessive stocks, by construction jobs taking so long, and by excessive delays between orders and the estimated delivery dates of materials? Why does one still see such a continuing disproportion between the final fulfillment of production objectives and the various supplies essential for them; why are deliveries substantially late and incomplete, and often made from a stock selection which had not been ordered and which is unsuitable, and in lesser quantity or of lower quality than ordered? Why do suppliers refuse to confirm deliveries for the purchaser so that necessary materials for planned jobs are ensured? Why do machines and plant equipment imported in exchange for hundreds of millions paid in hard currency remain a long time in warehouses without having been installed and without being able to be used, which means that sometimes the time period of the guarantee provided by the foreign supplier is found to have expired?

One-Third of Investments Behind Schedule

Why during the last few years are a third of our investments put into circulation behind schedule? That way production which was being counted on in the plan is irretrievably lost; hence imbalances which, through a chain reaction, have repercussions on other areas of production or necessitate new unplanned imports in exchange for hard currency. Thus, in certain firms two or more times as much is produced during the last 10 days of the month as had been made during the first 20 days. Such recurrent and sudden acceleration of production rates at the end of the trimester or the year increases the costs of production and transportation, often reduces quality, raises the level of work accidents, and sometimes leads to the dehumanization of labor --thus, for example, some women who have children are working in their textile factories on Saturdays or Sundays and holidays, and also the state of health of certain categories of workers, particularly those who work underground, is worsened.

It is not only the spare parts shortage or the late deliveries of materials or semi-finished goods which make normal relations between suppliers and purchasers impossible, but it is also the inadequacy of repair capacity, the neglect in the upkeep of machinery, the excessive use of machinery and therefore the greater possibilities of breakdowns, and, in some cases, the increasingly strict limits on allocated quantities of foreign exchange, as well as the problems of railway transportation, the means of transportation in which long-term investment has been neglected. And all that is occurring on such a scale that the resultant losses amount to several billion and inevitably have repercussions on the standard of living of almost all our citizens.

The Industrialized World Is Moving Faster Than Us

Why have we fallen so far behind industrial countries in the technical field during the last few years? As the minister of heavy engineering industry has himself observed in his sector, the technical quality of our goods is improving more slowly than in the best world producers. Up to now the development of our mechanical engineering industry has not been occurring at a desirable rate in comparison with the fantastic dynamism in that field on the world level. In a whole series of processes our economic development is slower and is behind; in our country, innovations* are introduced more slowly than in the rest of the world; we are also reducing energy expenditure per unit of production more slowly than elsewhere. The minister of finance has already spoken about that. But just being aware that a number of industrial countries use less and at the same time produce more energy per inhabitant is not enough (see the debates of the 26th Congress). According to the statements of the head of the government, the periods of time required by an innovation cycle [the periods of time for modernizing an enterprise] in our country are excessively long in comparison with industrial countries; sometimes it is twice as long. According to HOSPODARSKE NOVINY, Issue No 1, 1982 [economic review], in a number of cases new production capacities are hardly any more efficient, considering the costs, than the previous ones. The fact is that in a whole series of processes of rationalization and modernization the world around us is going faster than us. That is why the minister of finance thinks that the strong criticisms which are arising on that subject are justified.

The Waste of Metals

Why are we behind in the technical area, and why are we constantly falling further behind industrial countries? At the present time our products are a fifth heavier than those of the leading world producers, whereas light weight, is one of the recognized signs of quality in the world today. In addition, with that unnecessarily heavy weight of our products being exported, we are losing metal which could be used in the construction of other machinery. For example, the weight of our cast parts is 20 percent heavier than in the average industrial country, and measurable energy and fuel consumption is 18 percent higher, whereas overall labor productivity is lower. A whole set of mechanical engineering industry firms export their output to capitalist markets at prices which are distinctly lower than those obtained in world markets on the average. That is mainly due to the low technological level of their products. During these last few years our mechanical engineering industry has been failing to accomplish export jobs which add up to billions.

*In wooden economic parlance this term covers overlapping meanings: either the construction of new industrial units; or the modernization of means of production, which represents a serious problem for Czechoslovakia. During the 1950's and 1960's the country served as an industrial producer for the rebuilding East (and particularly China), and it had to retain already obsolescent facilities in many sectors for a long time, with all the sudden stoppages in production that that involved.

From the standpoint of the modernization of the economy, it would be beneficial to society for replacement of the machinery in service to be speeded up. In our country we do not make enough use of opportunities for recycling machines: their amortization period is about 25 years whereas in other industrial countries it is already shorter than 10 years (source: Council chairman's speech).

The waste of metals reflects an overall lack on terms of economical management. Thus, for the 1976-1980 Five-Year Plan, utilization of unnecessary material cost us more than 10 billion. With that amount, we could have built 460,000 Skoda automobiles or 120,000 apartments. That is a kind of difference which could already be having a chain reaction effect on the whole system of equipment and technology resupply. To go back to the head of the government's statement, within the calculation of our production's overall efficiency, our exports, expressed in terms of the relationship between national income and goods produced, are showing a falling trend, particularly in the last few years. This shows that the inadequacy in terms of economical management reduces the value of raw materials, energy, equipment, manpower, and investment by excessive use. We wonder why this is so--why our foreign trade surpluses have been transformed over the course of the last 10 years into high deficits, which is to say into credit, which mortgages the future.

For the years from 1966 to 1970 we still had a 1.7 billion koruna surplus. For the years from 1971 to 1975 there was already a 4.4 billion koruna deficit. And for the years from 1976 to 1980, that deficit had reached 21.1 billion korunas.

The Trade Deficit With Capitalist Countries

The situation is especially serious regarding trade with capitalist countries. During the years 1966-1970, we had a surplus of 1.2 billion. During the years 1971-1975 our deficit in that trade was 4.8 billion korunas and it reached 11.8 billion korunas during the years 1976-1980. But most important of all, running an economy on credit implies, as RUDE PRAVO pointed out on 29 January 1982, not leaving future generations any alternative but indebtedness.

In 1980 the state budget was balanced only by resorting to large loans obtained mostly abroad. The measures taken to correct these negative tendencies in the development of our economy have not produced the expected effect. Growing imbalances have been resolved only by calling up greater and greater amounts of capital, following which the trade balance, in deficit and worsened by stiffer credit terms, has led to a new increase in the balance of payments deficit. In order to finance production in 1980 we had to borrow abroad. We are paying 16-18 percent interest rates for debts contracted in capitalist countries. We are in a situation in which we can no longer ensure our economic development except by new loans in order to get ourselves out of that very situation. But we cannot increase our degree of foreign indebtedness.

That is why we do not even have the opportunity any more to import the necessary feed for our livestock in order to keep up its numbers while producing the necessary quantity of meat.

Why does the non-fulfillment of our export plans during the 1976-1980 Five-Year Plan period stem from the inadequate technical level of our means of production and from the inadequate quality of our goods? That is the case especially in our mechanical engineering industry, which provides about half of our exports. In fact, its unrealized export plans and the lower revenues derived from exported machinery were compensated for by exports of coal and other ores as well as exports of various wood products and consumer products, which is to say, by less profitable export products. Why have developments in our country been totally unlike other industrial countries? In those countries it is the more profitable mechanical engineering industry goods which have increased the most within their exports; whereas, in our country, in addition to everything mentioned above, coal, ores and consumer products were lacking in the domestic market.

The Reduction in Our Share of World Trade

Why has our share in world trade diminished, and why is it no more than 0.9 percent of total world trade now (it was 1.5 percent in 1965)? Similarly, our share of world trade in the area of mechanical engineering exports, which was 2.7 percent of the total in 1965, was no more than 1.8 percent in 1978. Why are we still so often manufacturing goods which are so backward in comparison with world-wide quality? Producing such goods amounts to wasting the labor of our people and exporting such goods diminishes esteem for our country's work. It is true that prices of raw materials have risen abroad. But unlike other industrial countries, we have not proved able to sell our products at prices closely correlated with those price rises on world markets, because the technical and economic features of our products have remained inferior and their delivery times are still too long, and because provision for spare parts and after-sales services has not been reliable, etc. However, a Czechoslovak ideologist stated not long ago that in 1977, and up until the end of 1979, practically nothing had been changed in that area. Only 2 percent of the goods for export were technologically comparable to world standard. Only 2 percent! In that case what price can we receive for our goods? Can we be surprised then at only receiving half the current market price? No doubt one could ask thousands of questions of this kind. Why are the population's money incomes not matched by desired consumer goods and services? Why does demand always exceed supply, even for both staple foods--meat, good quality vegetables, healthy and nourishing bread, and other types of food essential for a healthy diet--and certain industrial consumer products? Why is it that in our country what is growing most rapidly is the volume of money in circulation and savings account deposits, which are increasing decidedly faster than the corresponding value of the material bases being created? Why has unrealized purchasing power been growing the last few years? We are living at the expense of the future, of future generations and of our children.

Why are the trade unions not keeping watch over all these trends and the other economic processes which have a direct and long-term effect on the value of our wages and real incomes, on the living standards of the different occupational groups and the different age groups of the population? The chairman

of the State Planning Commission has rightly observed that our country's development needs a thoroughgoing rehabilitation. For the past few years it has, in fact, been suffering from chronic infectious ills which are specific to itself. So it is necessary to ask why. It is necessary to investigate the basic primary causes of its ills. Without answers to these questions we will not know how to succeed in carrying out that fundamental rehabilitation that is desired. And the billions will continue to disappear, which will necessarily have repercussions on subsequent developments in our standard of living and, consequently, in retail prices of consumer goods and the prices of services.

Some Questions That Thousands of Citizens Are Asking

We have only asked a few important economic questions at random. We are aware that they are not the most basic questions. The latter for example, have to do with the quality of managerial personnel at all levels of society and the principle of their replacement when required. The most basic questions also revolve around other serious issues: the rebuilding of capital equipment, solutions to a number of ticklish problems concerning the labor force, and gradual changes in an inefficient economic system. Solving them is of course dependent on having a better quality of management and comes in particular through an efficient changeover of leading managers. We have asked some questions that thousands of citizens are asking nowadays. Responsible leaders should be asking them as well. Can we expect exhaustive answers?

Finally, one issue from among a thousand: According to the 4 December 1981 issue of RUDE PRAVO, we are not making use of half or even a third of our real capacity in critical economic resources, which is to say in manpower, production resources, materials, and energy; whereas, it should be possible to produce a national income two-thirds higher from the quantity of economic resources available. Similarly, according to an editorial in HOSPODARSKE NOVINY, Issue No. 34/1981, if the principal economic resources were used to their maximum they could provide a national income more than two-thirds higher, even one twice as high.

Enormous Reserves and Enormous Incompetence

Even if some reservations might be expressed concerning these assertions appearing in the official press, they nonetheless confirm the talk of our professional propagandists which gives assurance that our economy has what they call enormous reserves. But, on the other hand, that also bears witness to the enormous incompetence of those who plan and manage our economy and bear responsibility for it, because they are unable to create the conditions necessary for the utilization of all those resources in practice. The job and responsibility of the present leadership team are the following above all: can--and to what extent can--that team utilize those enormous "real and available" economic resources to raise national income and, consequently, the standard of living? No doubt History will be the judge of that. Contemporary critics of our economy, even the more moderate ones, will be judging that team according to its ability to at least not lower the standard

of living--considering the enormous aforementioned potential--while carrying out price increases for goods and services. According to RUDE PRAVO on 9 March 1981, the secretary general of the Czechoslovak Communist Party declared, "It is the Communists most of all who are responsible for the way things develop in the future in our country."

9631

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CONCERN OF YOUTH GROUPS WITH ECONOMIC REFORM NOTED

Meeting of ZSMP Activists

Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 17 May 82 pp 1, 2

[Article by Zenon Kulej]

[Text] When toward the end of deliberations, Jerzy Jaskiernia, the Chairman of the Main Board of the Union of Socialist Polish Yough [ZSMP], spoke of the need to intensify the Union's ideological-educational activity [...]"so that no one would say that he joins the organization called FASM (Youth Social Action Fund)], it sounded like a paradox, for earlier discussions concerned primarily the economy, money, and difficult problems of occupational start facing young people. However, that was not out of place, for the purpose of a conference of the chairmen of the key ZSMP Plant Boards, which was held on 15 May in Warsaw, has been exactly to appriase the participation of the Union in the implementation of economic reform.

The ZSMP is under strong mass pressure of its members who expect it to take up vital social and living problems of the young generation. Even in these days of union pluralism the young people have quickly understood that no one will stand up for their generation interests on behalf of the ZSMP. That has been one of the causes of failure of the attacks instigated against the Union. Even though before August the organization was reproached with "overeconomization", it would be however, a mistake today to break away completely with economic problems. The point is only to maintain reasonable proportions, as well as to cease helping administration out in performing its duties which it is called upon to do. The latter problem reappears for many years in ZSMP discussions. Probably it will be some time before it disappears, for even the most pertinent demands cannot be decreed. It all depends on the wisdom of the active party members: whether they will allow themselves to get mixed up in someone else's work or not.

The economic reform that knocks at the gates of the workplaces will cause yet quite a number of frustrations. Many a director will lose his job, and not a few workers will be surprised to learn that their wages will not rise at all. For it might also happen that the bank will refuse loans and a specter of bankruptcy would face the plant. Losing no time over subtleness, the government plenipotentiary for economic reform, Minister Waldysalw Baka,

has portrayed before the assembled a vision of the coming years. There might be hard times, it will be necessary to tighten the belt, and those who would not understand in timely fashion that the principle of the "three S" requires in the first place thinking and honest work might quickly have enough of the reform.

In such a situation it is high time that everyone does his duty. For many years, the fluctuation in the workforce and its improper adaptation has been blamed quite often on the ZSMP, said one of the participants in the discussion, Ireneusz Szymarek from the Lodz POLMERINO Plant. After all, there exist services that are responsible for these matters. Since they are being paid and since the matter is important not only for social reasons but also for economic ones, it is time therefore to look at it otherwise. The ZSMP is to remain a political organization, representing youth before the administration; it can always help youth but not act in its place, concluded the discussants.

During discussion, the "old" and the "new" outlook of the ZSMP seemed to alternate at times. Among other things there were uttered complaints (which sounded now like hackneyed commonplaces) against "spokes put in the wheels" of rationalizers, difficulties involved with organization of the Young Masters of Technology Competition and the suggestions put forward that the matter be settled by order of superior authority, etc. In answering, Minister Baka has simply stated that the government will not define in detail, for example, the principles of financing inventiveness--the plant should do it through internal regulation. Otherwise, the orders "from above" would violate the "three S" principle.

"We are only at the threshold of economic reform and a man 'at the bottom' does not yet know what it will bring him." This occurred repeatedly in discussions, among others in a pronouncement of Jaroslaw Jeziroski from the Gdansk Ship Repair Yard. Therefore, the work forces expect to see concrete benefits from the implementation of the reform. Even though no one was saying directly "we want to earn more," this thought could be felt, unspoken, in various pronouncements. A need was stressed in particular, of raising wages of the managerial cadre ("what kind of authority can a foreman have who earns half as much as his subordinate"--said Zbigniew Uszynski, from A. Warski Shipyard in Szczecin).

Turning to the question of wages, Minister Baka pointed out the complexity of the problem. In the first place, one should not expect automatic increases in all sectors of national economy, for this would shake the already anemic market equilibrium. The state will protect those groups that are economically weakest, and indemnify them--we cannot afford more.

All this does not change the fact that in the coming weeks the government will submit to a public discussion a draft of the integrated wage base system in the national economy.

What was the meaning and purpose of the conference?

If we would consider it only as a meeting for discussion and formulation of documents (none were adopted) it would be difficult to answer this question. In my opinion, the sense of this meeting, the first after the program "Young People in Reform" was adopted five months earlier at the 5th Plenum of the ZSMP Main Board, lies in the possibility of an unhampered exchange of experience and opinions, not only from the rostrum but also unofficially. For the chairmen of the plant boards of the ZSMP were to leave Warsaw having received the answer to a question: "What to do now?"

They have heard from Minister Baka's own lips that one should think of the youth organization as a factor participating in the creation of the self-government of the plant (after all, there already exist possibilities to regulate the activity to a self-governing body). They have learned from their colleagues and from representatives of the ZSMP Main Board of numerous initiatives that fully deserve duplication (the meeting was addressed by the deputy chairman of the ZSMP Main Board Jaroslaw Klima, who likewise chaired the meeting, and by ZSMP Main Board Secretary Jerzy Rasilewicz).

So, what is being done locally and in the Main Board? In view of the ZSMP is that the organization--apart from representing its attitude before the administration and defending the interests of youth--should endeavor in the first place to prevent negative results of the implementation of reform. For these results would affect youth in the first place. Several directions of action were mapped out.

a) Realization of Right of Work

In several voivodship boards there have been created committees for the employment of young people, whose purpose is, among others, requalification for a new job. For example, the ZSMP Workers' Universities are to train this year about 280,000 persons desiring to acquire new professions. Using the Vocational Activization Fund, in many voivodships were created ZSMP Youth Labor Cooperatives. The Union also takes part in the organization of trips of the youth for work in USSR, GDR and CSSR. An interesting initiative is also the "banks of available work places," which are so-to-say the embryo of an information system, which should be attached to administration organs within the framework of an active labor exchange.

b) Occupational Promotion

The "Young People in Reform" program exhibits forcefully the problem of cadre policies, and connected with it, the policy of promoting young people. It is being stressed that the announced verification of leading cadres is a favorable moment to base the cadre policy on the young people.

c) Shaping of income.

The ZSMP Main Board took steps toward the change of regulations concerning loans for young married couples, and joined into the social movement of defense of the consumer interests (concentrating attention on prices of

childrens' and teenagers' items that are of special interest to young families). Among others, at the recommendation of the ZSMP Main Board the extent of educational leave was increased to 24 months and the amount of the grant-in-aid was also increased. Finally, as of 1 June 1982 there will be in force new legal FASM regulations, which link more strongly the object of the Fund with social needs of the young people.

Residential construction continues to be one of the sore points of our social and economic policy. The pressure of the youth in this question is especially great, and authorities speak openly of neglect of many years. To exemplify expectations of the activity of the youth in various fields of life, Minister Baka said, among others: We must cross out the notion: "we are waiting for dwellings" and substitute for it: "we are building dwellings." In this very field the ZSMP has nothing to be ashamed of. Patronage is an initiative praised in every respect (there exist at present more than 100 Youth Associations and Housing Construction Cooperatives), and a vast movement is developing for the use of local raw materials for construction. But there are also some that do not approve of patronage: some voivodship authorities and some cooperatives. Jerzy Jaskiernia had this very fact in mind when, toward the end of the discussion, he pointed to the blocking in leading voivodships of decisions, among others to those concerning construction.

Such particularisms are encountered by the ZSMP obviously quite often. One of the attitudes criticized at the conference was that taken by the Voivodship Cooperative Labor Unions toward the newly founded Youth Labor Cooperatives. One sees in them rather a competitor than a partner that should be helped at the start.

Reform does not appeal to everyone. Against it are all those who are afraid to work differently than before. They are afraid of competition based on objective criteria. The young are for reform. Active participation in its implementation is at present one of the most important tasks of the ZSMP in the work places.

Opinion of SZSP Activist

Warsaw SZTANDAR MŁODYCH in Polish 20 May 82 p 2

[Article by Pawel Winiarski]

[Text] At present, the SZSP [Socialist Union of Polish Students] is the only student organization. Without embarking upon detailed considerations one should state that until resumption of the activity of self-government or until the moment of the creation of some new organization it is exactly SZSP which is qualified to represent the interests of the students as a whole.

Problem number one--to what extent does it fulfill its present role? Did the hitherto existing work methods of this organization undergo sufficient change? Does it form correspond to the new requirements of the difficult period of implementation of economic reform?

The answer to these questions is not always an optimistic one. All too often the matters look different from what we would like them to be. The example of Warsaw University confirms my conviction that the process of renewal, both political and social, as well as the spirit of reform, reach the university organization much too slowly.

The only conspicuous manifestation of "our times" is an absolute lack of funds. The arrangement of the simplest matter encounters an impassable barrier in the form of the impossibility of getting basic means for carrying out the assigned tasks. The organizational disarray, which is partly due to the provisional character of formal solutions, is also being felt acutely.

In connection with these problems, the "Summer of Action" and the existence of student clubs and other units operating at the SZSP School Council, are very doubtful. The active union workers at the University are expecting to get from the ministry about 1.5 million zlotys for organizing a vacation for the whole student body. This means that upon receiving such a subsidy for vacations, organized by SZSP in one of the greatest of schools, not much more than 300 persons will benefit from it.

Here, it would be proper to ask an essential question--what will be the future of an SZSP that exists solely on the strength of its activity as an organization financed by the state funds. What will happen after the horn of plenty is exhausted?

I am the chief of an athletic club numbering 200 persons and functioning as a specialized unit of the Sports Commission of the SZSP School Council of Warsaw University. The lack of funds is a great danger to us. In the event of failure to realize the planned vacation camps, the whole year's effort of instructors and sportsmen will be wasted.

Perturbed by developments in the financial situation at the University I decided to visit the School Council's book-keeping and to inquire if there are formal possibilities of introducing the principles of economic reform into the organization's work. I was looked at in great wonder: "the self-financing of SZSP? No, this is impossible". I stated that my club could earn a part of the money through the collection of contributions that pass through the book-keeping. This did not elicit much enthusiasm in my interlocutrix: "the regulations do not envisage such a possibility"--was her answer.

The SZSP as an organization is not supposed to deal with economic matters. This is true, but it does not mean that a certain financial independence is unnecessary. The only argument for material support by the state is one of unprofitableness. Cultural activity brings deficit. But, after all, not every activity and not always. Well planned publishing work, concerts, films, or auctions of works of art can be a source of considerable income. Moreover, the activity of SZSP is not restricted to cultural matters. It also includes sports, rest, study and work. Yes, work. It is not strange that the slogan: "if you want rest--earn it," did not find more adherents at Warsaw University.

My criticism of the Sports Commission was answered by a statement that its chairman does not take money for his work. This is a dubious argument on the part of a worker of the socialist organization. Does it mean that one can bungle for free?

There are still many shortcomings in the work of SZSP in our schools. I have much to reproach our own workers. Burdened by the memory of previous methods of operation (already repeatedly criticized), they became in a sense accustomed to passiveness, to waiting for decisions and guidelines issuing from "above". Surely, it is high time to do away with such a state of affairs. No decisions, even the most inspired ones, would help without the creative collaboration of all the workers and members.

SZSP activity must adapt itself to reality, which after all creates possibility for independent thinking and activity. It is also worth one's while to give some thought to regulations--whether by any chance they do not hamper manifestations of a sound initiative?

1015

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'TRYBUNA LUDU' POLLS EDUCATORS ON YOUTH QUESTION

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 2 Jun 82, pp 1,2

[Discussion: "Responsibility of Educators"]

[Text] In discussions concerning youth, great emphasis has been placed on the problem of the responsibility of educators. Here is what they told TRYBUNA LUDU on this subject:

[Jerzy Morawiec, principal of Elementary School No 23 in Zabrze]: It is obvious that the school is doing moral training and upbringing in the course of teaching and instruction, but it is bad if didactics itself is the focal point of the teacher's attention. It is difficult even to imagine what sharp observers our students are. The teacher's attitude, his personal example, the straightforward nature of his statements during the lessons all show day by day the extent to which each educator's words fit his actions.

The teacher's responsibility for upbringing is undeniably great, but it must be remembered that the teacher and the school must constantly work with the parents in partnership in the upbringing process.

[Dr Jozef Cegla, adjunct of the Institute of Political Sciences, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan]: It is not a simple matter to talk to people 20 or 30 years of age. It never was, but during the period of martial law it is especially difficult. Just undertaking the dialogue is sometimes a real achievement, but such a partnership conversation is the only alternative. Let us not undertake a dialogue which consists of referring here and there to hypotheses about the conflict between the generations, to slogans about "students study!" (just study), or verdicts making only the teachers and parents responsible for the condition of young hearts and minds.

Young people have always carefully observed the attitudes of us, their teachers, educators. They are critical in their assessments of sudden changes in attitudes and views. They do not tolerate peaks and valleys.

The young people with whom I have contact fortunately do not consider internal emigration to be something to be proud of, and they assess the way their teachers are present (intellectually, politically, morally) in public life, because it is not possible to do moral training and teaching for the future without having any influence on that future, by remaining silent.

[Zofia Malecka, member of the Parents' Committee at School No 6 in Warsaw]: I think that for a good teacher-educator to achieve the socially desired effects of his work he should respect his pupils' convictions and change their improper or erroneous views not by mechanically assigning an "F" but by his knowledge, the earnestness of his convictions, and his experience. What has to be done so that all educators will meet such requirements is another problem altogether.

[Jaroslaw Englert, teacher, vocational secondary school, Gdynia]: The school has always been a training ground for citizenship and patriotism. This is the ages old tradition of our education and system of moral training, and we must not underestimate this obligation to the younger generation and to our country.

The lessons on the state, its constitutional foundations, civic responsibilities, the political system, moral standards, the history of our country, and its place in the world must not merely be classes in civil training. Everyone must learn political culture and respect for our national traditions, be they mathematicians, Polish language and literature majors, or vocation teachers.

[Jarek Lubkowski, student at the Post-secondary Electronics Program in Warsaw]: Not too long ago I went for some practical exercises with my classmates to a few plants. I had some really hard work every day along with five others, but the work was interested and had some connection to our major. Besides that, we earned quite a bit, considering we are students. Others, nearly 20 others from our class, still laugh to this very day about their practical experience internships. The foremen and masters sent them off to sleep in a corner every day. Now, after all, this is "moral training," and later people will be saying that young people are bad.

[Tadeusz Rysinski, principal, H. Sawicka General High School IV, Kielce]: Teachers must realize the responsibility they bear for the upbringing of young people and the goals and tasks we face, but they must also want to accomplish these tasks.

The school is not an institution in isolation from social life. After all, we all have an impact on the younger generation, all of us, the family, the home, the environment, organizations, and so on. Therefore there should be no multitrack approach to moral training, because will find out something different in the home, at school, and in his peer group.

The thing is that the teacher cannot be alone. He must be supported by the family, the youth organization, cultural institutions, and so on.

[Jan Tomiczek, district commander, Polish Scout Union, Zywiec]: In our search for models, we often reach out to history, but we must not forget here how much in youth upbringing depends on the attitudes of the educators.

I think that we are generally in danger of a certain routine and rigidity in teaching and upbringing. For this reason, deep knowledge, some relationship to the subject, and skill in entering into close contact with the student are absolutely invaluable and irreplaceable, because they are the determining factor in moral authority and therefore in reaching young people with forceful argument.

In scouting which is continually looking for new forms of moral influence, I think that we are giving greater weight to these matters than the schools do.

[Jadwiga Rozalska, vice principal, Basic Vocational School No 2, Ciechanow]: Under the conditions which existed this school year in our school's upbringing work, we placed the major accent on developing patriotic attitudes. Previous forms of work in this area were expanded, and the content was provided for us by the centenary of the Polish labor movement and the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Polish Workers Party (PPR), which fall now.

Because many of our youngsters come from a rural environment, the upbringing efforts are aimed at developing aesthetic attitudes and an interest in the culture of daily life. We think that such a direction is desirable from the social and civic point of view.

[Zofia Musial, director of the Culinary and Tailoring Schools Group, Bydgoszcz]: Young people are careful observers of everything going on in our daily life. It is absolutely essential to create a uniform moral training and upbringing front, in which there must be the participation of the home, the school, the youth organizations, the work establishment, and the cultural centers. In the school, the educator plays a particularly important role in this process. Therefore, the educator must be a person who is orthodox and patient, one who is aware of the fact that first of all what is going to count with youngsters is his behavior, his knowledge, his attitude, and his ability to get along.

10790

CSO: 2600/719

ACADEMIC DISCUSSES MORAL TRAINING WORK IN HIGHER SCHOOLS

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 1 Jun 82 p 4

[Interview with Docent Dr Habilitowany Danuta Gielarowska, Institute for Scientific Policy, Technological Progress, and Higher Education, by Irena Solinska: "In Keeping With the 'Age of the College Student' -- Moral Training Efforts of the Institution of Higher Education"]

[Text] The moral training of young people, who are nonetheless adults, because that is what college students are, is a very specific area. The rank of this issue and its continual timeliness are inclining the academics to seek better and better pedagogic solutions. Recently the initial targets of "The Concepts of Moral Training in Higher Education Facilities" were presented at a convocation "Higher Education -- Polish Science and Study Under the Conditions of the Economic Reform" by Docent Danuta Gielarowska, of the Institute for Scientific Policy, Technological Progress, and Higher Education.

[Question] So then, what designates the main directions of the moral training, upbringing activity of the institution of higher education? What must be taken into account to produce results?

[Answer] For example, attention must be given to the specific characteristics of the students' age. Among other things, cognitive and emotional needs predominate the college years, along with a feeling of independence and the desire for success. One must also consider the typical attitude towards life: severe criticism linked at the same time to the search for perfect reality, according to Doc Gielarowska. This is at the same time a period when convictions become clearer, the value system becomes stable, and there is a great increase in the person's own activity and independence. It is simply necessary to recognize the aspirations of college students, their life aspirations and desires, the values they recognize, and also the quality of student life.

The specific nature of the academic institution's environment has a great impact on students, and this includes scientific creativity and academic teaching. The influence of personal models is important. I am thinking about famous scholars with moral authority, the scientific and moral climate of the institution.

[Question] For this concept what is the groundwork of moral training and upbringing work in the institutions of higher education?

[Answer] On the one hand, the functions of moral training understood as a social process, through which the society sees to its identity, its permanence, and its development. On the other hand, moral training understood as help in the individual's private development. At the foundation of this concept we find the principle-based notion of the socialist society which says that the person's good is the supreme value.

The knowledge gathered about the person, his world, the existence of lasting values, and so on, require continuity of presentation and solidification in the awareness of the generations. It is therefore the task of upbringing, among other things, to insure this continuity, to present the content which provides for the person's identity and is of importance to his identifying with his own class, nation, and state. These are the foundations of patriotic moral training, of civic and state upbringing. These are also the foundations for ideological, moral, and vocational training.

At the same time, upbringing or moral training must encourage the creation and assimilation of new values and new solutions, must stimulate social development, present the foundation for the young people to develop the ability to assess critically existing reality, and commit them to action on behalf of change. The creative nature of the preparation of the college graduate makes it necessary to present this very function. It provides the basis for the development of a world view and for intellectual upbringing.

[Question] These social functions of moral training and upbringing should be linked to the personal development of every individual.

[Answer] We must note the personality needs of the young person. Upbringing is to help him in value-oriented participating in existing reality. It is therefore important to call attention to the adaptational side of moral training. The basic thing here is help in self-awareness and knowledge of one's own abilities, instruction in learning to take advantage of the personal strong points one has and to manage one's shortcomings.

For students the creative function of upbringing aiding in developing one's own personality and the conditions of one's life is especially suitable. It awakens interest and motivation in these directions.

[Question] Of course, the briefly presented targets for moral training and upbringing work in the college-student group must be reflected in practical expression...

[Answer] First of all, this will be structuring students' attitudes vis-a-vis the fundamental areas of life, especially those in which young people are interested, like the attitude toward ideas and values, the society, the other person, knowledge of culture... It is very difficult to say how to accomplish this, in what way to propose this content to academic groups. The foundation

of upbringing and moral training is and will be the educational level of the institution, the system of values present in the milieu, the institution's quality of preparation, and the responsible partnership between the students and their self-government organization. The role of the college instruction staff, professors and teaching assistants, is fundamental here.

We see certain proposals for practical solutions, such as introducing into the curriculum some electives to expand the group of required sociopolitical subjects, courses with content that meets the students' interests. There is also a new notion of upbringing work based on the self-government, but we shall not be able to talk about the details until the concept which has been presented is completely worked out.

10790

CSO: 2600/719

YOUTH UNIONS HOLD LEADERSHIP MEETINGS

ZSMP Main Board Presidium

Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 16 Jun 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] The Main Board Presidium of the Union of Socialist Polish Youth [ZSMP] met on 15 June. Activities of the youth movement on the international scene were discussed.

The Main Board's chairman, Jerzy Jaskiernia, informed the Presidium about the visit of the Polish party-governmental delegation led by Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski to Romania on 4 June. As is known, Jerzy Jaskiernia was one of the members of the Polish delegation. The Main Board's chairman paid particular attention to the youth issue by informing the board about discussions with the administration of the UTC-Communist Youth Union of Romania. The principle of further developing cooperation between ZSMP and UTC was discussed, and it was decided to increase exchanges of journalists writing for the youth press, tourist groups and special delegations.

The Main Board Presidium also heard from participants at the Eleventh WFDY Assembly in Prague. Participation by a delegation of socialist Polish youth unions, which was led by Jerzy Jaskiernia, was highly regarded. The development of the political situation in Poland came up frequently at the assembly. Solidarity with the Polish youth and nation seeking ways by which to get out of the crisis situation was expressed. However, there were some who showed a lack of knowledge about the development of the situation in Poland, and also an illwill in its interpretation. In these cases, the Polish delegation came forward with effective arguments.

The assembly sessions at Prague took place in an atmosphere of enormous concern about not only peace and detente but also halting the arms race and avoiding a nuclear catastrophe. The Main Board Presidium declared that the Union of Socialist Polish Youth will act in every way to strengthen WFDY and to encourage the world's youth in their rightful struggle for peace and international cooperation. Reports were also given on the participation by a delegation of socialist Polish youth unions at the Congress of the Dimitrov Communist Youth Union in Sofia and the Congress of Young French Communists in Paris, both of which took place at the beginning of the month.

The Main Board administration of ZSMP noted with satisfaction that the Council of Ministers had adopted the program concerning conditions for making a living and professional life for the young generation. It was emphasized that in working out this program, the conclusions and concepts of the Third Extraordinary ZSMP Congress played a fundamental role, as well as the postulates and proposals advanced by the linked organizations on the young generation's conditions of life. The view was expressed that the program constitutes an important event in preparing for the Ninth Plenum of the PZPR Central Committee with respect to youth; the program's implementation will be the subject of greatest concern on the part of ZSMP youth. This is confirmed by actions undertaken by the organization e.g., youth division of labor, participation in resolving apartment construction problems and removal of difficulties in developing the food economy.

The Main Board Presidium of ZSMP accepted reports prepared at the Main Board's seventh plenary session. These reports will be dedicated to the role of youth intelligence.

SZSP Executive Committee

Warsaw SZTANDAR MŁODYCH in Polish 16 Jun 82 p 2

[Text] The joint council of the Executive Committee of the SZSP Supreme Council [RN] and the chairmen of district councils, which met on 15 June, was devoted to an evaluation of the situation in the academic community, a discussion about the future of the student movement and, above all, an evaluation of the position of the Socialist Union of Polish Students [SZSP] prior to the Ninth Plenum of the PZPR Central Committee. Tadeusz Sawic, chairman of the SZSP Supreme Council, chaired the council.

The session confirmed that SZSP performed two functions in the academic community: socio-professional and ideo-educational. In our country's current situation, the question must be answered as to whether it is possible for SZSP to realize both functions through one organization. Council participants were in agreement that SZSP's fundamental responsibility is to defend the values represented by the student movement. It was recognized that many elements of the union's program still have not been implemented in full. And because the program contains a wide array of attractive proposals, a new strategy for implementing it becomes necessary.

It was decided at the council that SZSP will continue to lead discussions concerning the shape of the student movement and community.

Much discussion also was devoted to the problems and difficulties encountered by youth, including academic youth, in such areas as the problem of finding work after graduation and the apartment shortage.

9807

CSO: 2600/725

NEW LAW ON VETERANS' RIGHTS PASSED

Comments of ZBoWiD Official

Warsaw EXPRESS WIECZORNY in Polish 27 May 82 p 4

[Interview with Wlodzimierz Sokorski, chairman of the Main Board of ZBoWiD (Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy); by Maris Guzowska, date and place not specified: "From Now On, There Will Be Fewer of Us"]

[Text] The parliament has passed a law on specific rights of veterans. It lays down in detail the rights of those who have taken part in the struggle for national and social liberation of the Motherland, participants of the October Revolution, of the struggle against the forces of reaction and fascism, of the struggle for independence and consolidation of people's power, fighters for preserving the Polish character on territories annexed by invaders, participants of the resistance movement, individuals who were jailed in Hitlerite concentration camps or Hitlerite prisons due to political, national or racial affiliation and also of individuals who carried out underground schooling of children and youth under Hitlerite occupation.

We are having an interview about this law with Wlodzimierz Sokorski, chairman of the Main Board of ZBoWiD.

[Question] Does the adoption of this law by the parliament give full satisfaction, both moral and financial, to the 600,000-strong veteran community?

[Answer] It certainly gives moral and political satisfaction. After many years, the state has decided to reiterate before the entire nation that we owe freedom and independence to this social group, the veterans. They have deserved that high praise from the parliament not only in the past, but at present as well. It is known that veterans have not allowed a split in their ranks, on the contrary, a complete intergration of the veteran community has occurred--soldiers of AL [People's Army], AK [Home Army], Peasant Battalions, soldiers in the West, soldiers of the I and II ARmies, Silesian and Great Polish insurgents. Soldiers of Hubal and legion members have also joined us, creating their own clubs. Complete equality has come to reign as well as respect for the past, regardless of the colors we fought under. The goal of the fight, which is common to all of us has become important.

[Question] There was a time when critical and ironic views began to gain ground to the effect that the more time which separated us from the war, the more and increasingly younger veterans we seemed to have.

[Answer] This is true. However, you should also bear in mind last year's verification, when the youth from the time of occupation, soldiers from the Gray Ranks were admitted to our community. Today they are 45 or 55 years old. Let me mention the establishment of the Warsaw Uprising Cross. It brought about 14,000 insurgents to our ranks. These unfounded critical remarks caused pain. However, from now on there will be fewer and fewer of us.

[Question] I also asked you about financial satisfaction.

[Answer] The law consolidates in one legal act all the current privileges which so far have been found disjointedly in various documents. These are, for example, the rights to retire earlier, to have longer vacations, to purchase living quarters on very favorable terms. The new document envisages new privileges for veterans who are retirees and annuitants. These privileges are very important in the current difficult social and economic situation. The new law envisages a 50-percent reduction in municipal transportation fares, in railway fares and PKS [Polish Automobile Transportation] buses, reductions in telephone fares, free use of the radio and television networks, reductions in rents, electricity gas and piped heat rates and also in registration fees and insurance premiums for cars.

[Question] The veteran's bonus to retirement benefits and annuities is the most important privilege...

[Answer] Yes. We fought the hardest to secure it. All veterans--retirees and annuitants will receive a 25-percent bonus to their benefits which is similar in size to the bonus for state decorations. In other words, everyone receiving this bonus is recognized to be a person worthy of a decoration. This is very important in the face of many accusations leveled against veterans for "scrambling for state decorations" in order to increase their retirement benefits. The spread of such opinions is especially unfair to the community of veterans in rural areas--settlers in western territories, for example, received very small retirement benefits. They were almost seen as landowners. The veteran bonus (not lower than 1,250 zlotys) is of great importance for those whose benefits did not exceed 3,000-4,000 zlotys. Can we talk about any extraordinary privileges in this case?

[Question] However, there is talk of that, even within the veteran community.

[Answer] It is true. However, these are the voices of people who have held or are holding high positions in the state administration. They have high salaries or retirement benefits. They do not lack state decorations, which entitle them to a 25-percent bonus to their benefits anyway. Their protests testify to egoism, to unfamiliarity with the condition of the majority of veterans, almost 90 percent of them.

[Question] The law takes effect in January 1983, doesn't it?

[Answer] Yes. It will be as late as January. The day before the Sejm took up this matter I took part in talks with the government on this subject. It was very important for us to see the law take effect in July or October at the latest. We must take into account the fact that many thousands are already unable to take advantage of the law. However, our arguments were not convincing enough in the face of a very difficult situation for the state. The veteran community has accepted with understanding the change in the date the law takes effect to January 1983.

[Question] Thank you for the interview.

Text of Law

Warsaw ZA WOLNOSC I LUD in Polish 5 Jun 82 pp 1, 5

["Law on Specific Rights of Veterans adopted on 26 May 1982"]

[Text] With respect and appreciation for the participants of battles for the national and social liberation of the Motherland, for preserving the Polish character and independence of the country, for establishing and consolidating people's power and also taking into consideration the need to provide special care for the community of people who have served the nation and the state, the following is hereby resolved:

Chapter 1

General Provisions

Article 1. The law regulates rights enjoyed by participants of the battles for national and social liberation of the Motherland, fighters for preserving the Polish character on territories annexed by invaders, participants of the Great October Socialist Revolution, of fights against the forces of reaction and fascist movements, of struggle for independence, soldiers of the anti-fascist coalition, participants of the struggle for consolidation of people's power, participants in the resistance movement, individuals who were jailed in Hitlerite concentration camps and prisons due to political, ethnic or racial considerations and by individuals who carried out underground schooling of children and youth under Hitlerite occupation.

Article 2.1. Of those individuals referred to in article 1, those who are Polish citizens and maintain permanent residence in the territory of the People's Republic of Poland are entitled to the rights envisaged by the law, if these individuals are members of the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy or meet the conditions set for being a member of this association.

2. When a reference is made by the present law to veterans, the individuals defined in paragraph 1 are meant.

Article 3.1. Compliance with the conditions for obtaining statutory rights by particular individuals is determined by the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy. It also determines the period when a veteran was active. If there are no data to establish the period of such activity, while the grounds for recognition as a veteran are beyond doubt, the period of such activity is considered to be one month.

2. The definition mentioned in paragraph 1 is the basis for the adjudication of benefits and other rights envisaged by the law.

3. Organs of the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy empowered to rule on matters referred to in paragraph 1 and the conduct of these matters are determined by the Main Board of the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy.

4. The Minister of Labor, Wages and Social Affairs with the consent of the Office for Veterans' Affairs and upon consultation with the Main Board of the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy defines, by an ordinance, the conduct in matters relating to benefits and rights envisaged by the law.

Article 4. The Chairman of the Office for Veterans' Affairs can, in especially well-founded cases, confer rights envisaged by the statute on individuals who do not meet the conditions set in article 2, paragraph 1.

Article 5. The anniversary of the victorious ending of World War II, 9 May of every year, is to be celebrated as Veterans' Day.

Chapter 2

Labor Rights of Veterans Still in

the Labor Force

Article 6.1. The period of the veteran's combat activity is included as part of tenure on which the adjudication or size of benefits provided for employees by the enterprise are based.

2. The Minister of Labor, Wages and Social Affairs, with the consent of the Office for Veterans' Affairs and upon consulting the Main Board of the Association of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy, will establish, by an ordinance, specific regulations and mode of including the period of activity mentioned in paragraph 1 as part of tenure.

Article 7. The leave of absence which veterans still in the labor force are entitled to is extended by 10 working days. This extension does not apply if these individuals take advantage of a leave longer than 26 working days a year.

Article 8.1. The cancellation of a labor contract with a veteran during a period of 2 years before the age which entitles him to early retirement (article 11) can take place after the consent of the competent organ of state administration has been granted.

2. The regulation in paragraph 1 does not apply to persons holding management positions and persons who meet the conditions set for obtaining retirement benefits.

3. The regulation in paragraph 1 also does not apply to the cancellation of a labor contract without termination and the case when the veteran's professional license is revoked. The enterprise must notify the appropriate provincial organ of the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy of which the employee in question is a member when it cancels a labor contract in this mode.

Chapter 3

Rights to Retirement Benefits

Article 9.1. The veterans who were disabled in wars or in military service and surviving family members are entitled to monetary benefits and other rights envisaged by regulations on providing for disabled war and military veterans and their families.

2. Also entitled to monetary benefits and other rights envisaged by the regulations mentioned in paragraph 1 and in accordance with these regulations are:

1) veterans--prisoners of Hitlerite concentration camps and prisons, if they have been assigned to a disability category due to a disability related to their stay in such camps or prisons.

2) family members surviving veterans--prisoners of Hitlerite concentration camps and prisons who were receiving annuities on the grounds of disabilities referred to in paragraph 1, when they died.

3. Disabilities that developed as a consequence of wounds, contusions and other injuries or diseases, suffered in conjunction with a stay in Hitlerite concentration camps and prisons are considered to be disabilities associated with such a stay.

4. A medical commission for disabilities which includes a physician-representative of the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy establishes the linkage between wounds, contusions and other injuries or diseases associated with a stay in a Hitlerite concentration camp or prison and also the linkage between the disability with a stay in such prisons or camps.

Article 10. The period of active duty of a veteran counts twice towards tenure in the labor force on which annuities and retirement benefits are based.

Article 11.1. Veterans still in the labor force who are not taking advantage of specific rights ensuing from the regulations providing for war and military invalids and their families, can, at their own request, retire after they have turned 55 (for women) or 60 (for men) if they have been in the labor force for the period required to obtain retirement benefits.

2. Veterans receiving disability annuities for labor-related reasons who are out of the labor force are entitled, at their request, to change their annuities for retirement benefits if they meet the conditions set in paragraph 1.

3. The regulations laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 also apply to veterans acquiring rights to retirement benefits for reasons other than employment.

4. Regulations on providing for disabled servicemen and their families regarding the suspension of and reduction in annuities do not apply to veterans--disabled servicemen. Principles of suspending and reducing annuities in regard to these individuals are set by an ordinance of the Council of Ministers.

Article 12. Veterans receiving retirement benefits and annuities but no bonuses for a decoration or an honorary title or for participation in underground schooling are entitled to a veteran's bonus on their annuities or retirement benefits. These bonuses are equal to bonuses for decorations with order or honorary titles envisaged by regulations on comprehensive provision of retirement benefits to employees and their families or by other regulations on retirement benefits.

Article 13.1. Veterans who are not entitled to annuities or retirement benefits on the basis of regulations on providing for the disabled in wars and military service and their families, or on the basis of other regulations, can be granted in exceptional cases:

- 1) retirement benefits, if they have turned 55 (for women) and 60 (for men);
- 2) disability annuities, if they have been assigned to a disability category.

2. The regulation in paragraph 1 applies accordingly to family members surviving the death of veterans if they meet the conditions required to qualify for family annuities.

3. An ordinance of the Council of Ministers established specific guidelines, conditions and the process of granting and increasing retirement benefits and annuities referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, as well as the amount of these benefits, vested bonuses and other benefits.

4. The benefits referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 are adjudicated by the Chairman of the Office for Veterans' Affairs.

Article 14. The nursing care bonus established by the regulations on comprehensive retirement benefits for employees and their families is granted to veterans upon turning 75 years old.

Article 15. The right to retirement benefits and annuities is established and the benefits are paid out by the Social Security Agency. This agency also pays out benefits granted on the basis of article 13.

Chapter 4

Health Care and Other Social Welfare Entitlements

Article 16.1. Veterans take advantage of special health care.

2. The Minister of Health and Social Welfare, with the consent of the Office for Veteran Affairs and upon consulting the Main Board of the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy, outlines by an ordinance the forms and scope of special health care for veterans.

Article 17. The Minister of Health and Social Welfare will create health spas and medical treatment facilities for veterans and for those requiring special care--nursing homes for veterans.

2. Veterans take advantage as much as possible of priority in admissions to hospitals and health resorts of special and enterprise health care systems.

3. Veterans who have qualified for special or enterprise health care enjoy this right upon retirement as well.

4. Competent ministers outline specific guidelines of granting rights referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3, in regard to subordinate health care facilities.

Article 18.1. Veterans are entitled to:

- 1) fare reductions when using municipal transportation,
- 2) price reductions when purchasing living quarters from the state for ownership
- 3) priority in receiving a recreation plot from the state,
- 4) priority in obtaining permission to carry out economic activities envisaged by regulations on operating and organizing artisan shops and also in regulations on carrying out [retail] trade and some other activities by units of non-socialized economy.
- 5) priority in purchasing machinery and equipment as well as heating fuel, if veterans operate a farm or are involved in other economic activities on their own account and do not hire employees.

2. Besides the rights referred to in paragraph 1, veterans who are retirees, annuitants or disabled are entitled to:

- 1) a tariff reduction of 50 percent when riding railway trains or buses on the Polish Automobile Transportation network,
- 2) a reduction in telephone equipment charges and free use of radio and television sets,

3) reductions in electricity, gas and piped heat rates for household use.

3. Disabled veterans are also entitled to a reduction in registration fees and insurance premiums for cars.

4. The Council of Ministers can establish, by an ordinance, rights and reductions for veterans other than those referred to in paragraphs 1 through 3, outlining concurrently the scope, amount and specific guidelines for granting such rights and reductions.

5. Main and central organs of the state administration, responsible for the matters enumerated in paragraphs 1 through 3 due to other regulations will, with the consent of the Office for Veterans' Affairs and upon consulting the Main Board of the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy, establish the scope, amount and specific guidelines for applying the reductions and rights referred to in paragraphs 1 through 3, as prescribed in the above regulations.

Chapter 5

The Veterans' Fund

Article 19.1. The State Veterans' Fund is to be set up, further referred to as "the fund."

2. The Office for Veterans' Affairs is the trustee of the fund.

Article 20.1. Income for the fund is drawn from the subsidies of the state budget and voluntary contributions of individuals and institutions.

2. Specifically, the fund is to provide for:

1) the payment of retirement benefits and annuities referred to in articles 9 and 13 to veterans or family members surviving the veteran, as well as the payment of benefits resulting from article 18,

2) extemporary financial aid to veterans or family members surviving the veterans,

3) the financing of construction of health resorts and other medical facilities designed for veterans,

4) the financing of construction of nursing homes for veterans.

3. The fund can also provide moneys to cover other expenses, specifically, the expenses for publications on the battles for national and social liberation and the resistance movement.

4. The Council of Ministers establishes by an ordinance specific guidelines for setting up and managing the fund.

Chapter 6

Interim and Final Regulations

Article 21. Certifications on the rights of veterans granted on the basis of current regulations remain valid, provided that the period of a veteran's active duty is determined to be one month in the cases referred to in article 3, paragraph 1.

Article 22. The organs of state administration, especially the basic territorial organs of state administration, are charged with rendering consistent assistance to territorial echelons of the Association of Fighters for Liberty and Democracy and of other organizations of former soldiers in carrying out their statutory tasks and programs of activity and also with supporting their socio-political and social activities.

Article 23.1. The law of 23 October 1975 on further increases of benefits for veterans and prisoners of concentration camps (DZIENNIK USTAW, No 34; item 186) becomes invalid.

2. Until executive regulations envisaged by the present law are issued, current regulations will apply, as long as they are not at variance with this law.

Article 24. Matters that have been taken up on the basis of current regulations and remained unresolved until the date the present law takes effect must be settled in accordance with the provisions of the present law.

Article 25. The law takes effect on 1 January 1983.

9761

CSO: 2600/689

ACTIVITIES OF REGIONAL CONSCRIPTION COMMISSIONS DESCRIBED

Lublin SZTANDAR LUDU in Polish 13 May 82 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Radzislav Szymanski, deputy commanding officer of the Hrubieszow Military Draft Command, by Sl. Nadlonek: "On the work of draft commissions"; date and place not specified]

[Text] In four voivodships of our region, the regional conscription commissions are conducting their spring activities. They aim to establish the fitness of male youth born in 1963 for the military service. We are talking today with lieutenant colonel Radzislav Szymanski, deputy commanding officer of the Hrubieszow Military Conscription Command, about the work and tasks of such commissions.

[Question] What are the main tasks of the regional conscription commissions?

[Answer] In the area under the authority of the Hrubieszow Military Conscription Command two regional conscription commissions have been active for almost a month: in Hrubieszow and in Tomaszow Lubelski. Their principal task is establishing the fitness of males for the military service born in 1963. The above mentioned commissions included three physicians: two civilian and one military. Representatives of the military medical service were included in the work of the conscription commissions for the first time. They know better than their civilian colleagues the needs and requirements of the military, and this should contribute to even more precise classification of the fitness of a young man for the military service.

[Question] Part of the draftees had earlier been prepared for the performance of military service. I have in mind all kinds of specialized courses, among others those for drivers, which were run by the military cost-free.

[Answer] In the Zamosc voivodship we have several trade schools which are training drivers. In our situation there are enough draftees with this specialization. Nevertheless, under the program of pre-military training for youth out of school we are training drivers in the categories B and C. They have an opportunity to improve their qualifications in the military units. I

want to stress that some 90 percent of the males who have improved their qualifications while serving in the military, take up driving in various branches of the national economy after their discharge.

[Question] Not all the males who are fit for military service are eventually drafted. How does the conscription commission decide who and under what conditions one can have his enlistment deferred or can even be transferred to a reserve unit?

[Answer] All the draftees who report to the commission are processed according to the documents they possess. Pursuant to certain regulations deferments can be granted to sole supporters of families and to self-employed farmers. As a rule, we are granting deferments to those individuals who have tried to enroll at an university, but for certain reasons were not admitted. We are giving them another chance to apply for a student status.

[Question] Let us assume that a young man has been drafted by the military, but during his service his status changes, e.g., one of his parents dies or he becomes the sole supporter of his family.

[Answer] In this case he will be granted an early discharge. Such a decision--substantiated by the submitted documents--is made by the head of a state authority in the individual's place of residence. The above mentioned documents are in turn sent to the Military Conscription Commission, and, then to the Voivodeship Military Staff who makes a judgement. Usually head of the Voivodship Military Staff puts in such cases only the proverbial dot above the letter "i."

[Question] A certain group of youth reports to you, after graduating from trade or high school, declaring their wish to obtain professional training in the military schools.

[Answer] The military traditions are very much alive among the residents of the Zamosc region. So, we do not have any real problems with the recruitment of candidates for military schools. Each year we send many individuals to various types of schools. The trade school graduates favor first of all military technical schools. Those with the secondary school certificates choose mostly military academies and higher officers' schools.

Military schools guarantee young people not only an attractive profession but in addition a comparatively early independence and an easier start in life.

9644

CSO: 2600/680

BRIEFS

RESIGNATION OF DEPUTY--The Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania approves the request of Comrade Nicolae Iosif to give up his position as deputy in the Grand National Assembly for the Chisineu-Cris Electoral District No 5 in Arad County. This decision was adopted unanimously by the Grand National Assembly on 21 May 1982. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romanian Part I No 49 22 May 82 p 4]

MODIFICATION OF LAW, DECREE--The Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees that the following paragraph, paragraph 2, will be added to Article 1 of Decree No 77/1971 on the organization and operation of the State General Inspectorate for the Quality Control of Products, which became Law No 35/1971, with subsequent modifications: "The State General Inspectorate for the Quality Control of Products is organized and operates as an organ of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Romania". Article 6 of Law No 15/1972 on the organization and operation of the Central Council for Worker Control of Economic and Social Activity, republished in BULETINUL OFICIAL No 125/1977, is abrogated. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romanian Part I No 57, 17 Jun 82 p 2]

CSO: 2700/308

END